# THE DAILY CONFUSION

#### Your guide to Residence Exploration, pp. 10-14

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

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FRI: 89° F | 68° F Chance showers

SAT: 84° F | 66° F Sunny

SUN: 80° F | 65° F

Mostly sunny

Friday, August 26, 2016

Volume 136, Number 20

# Dorm to be built on West Campus may be complete by 2019

# The Institute hopes the dorm will add 700 new beds for undergrads

By Emma Bingham and Divya Gopinath

NEWS STAFF

A new dorm will be constructed on West Campus with the goal of opening in 2019. Its current location and building plans are undecided.

MIT is looking to add 700 new beds to its undergraduate housing system, wrote Vice President for Student Life Suzy M. Nelson in a statement emailed to The Tech.

Plans to convert the Metropolitan Storage Warehouse on Mass Ave into a dorm were scrapped last February due to "design, age, and schedule challenges," Nelson wrote. The administration is currently determining which location would be most feasible for the placement of a new dorm, a process that includes studying zoning requirements.

Kim Haberlin, Senior Communications Officer for the Chancel-

lor, wrote in an email to The Tech that it was "important that we... prevent any misinformation from spreading" regarding the plans or location for a new dorm, and that no decisions have been made on either point.

In order to study "issues that shape ideal residence hall design," Nelson convened the Architectural Principles for MIT Undergraduate Residences Group on August 19.

The group is comprised of faculty, staff, and students, including various members of DormCon. It will compile information from MIT community input, external sources, and similar studies, such as the MetX Student Advisory Report, the West Campus Study, and the work done by the Student Housing Advisory Committee.

DormCon President Kate Farris '17 emailed all undergraduate resi-

New Dorm, Page 15



ROBERT RUSCH—THE TECH

Incoming freshmen frolick on Kresge lawn Tuesday.

#### **IN SHORT**

**PE registration** for the first quarter of fall semester opens Wednesday, August 31, at 8 a.m.

**The first day of fall classes** is Wednesday, September 7, and Registration Day is Tuesday, September 6.

**First Year Residence Exchange (FYRE)** opens Sunday, August 28, at 12 p.m. and closes on Wednesday,

August 31, at 2 a.m.

The last day to waive MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan for the 2016-2017 academic year is Thursday, September 15.

Send news and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

# LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH

**New Macintosh computers** adorn the 56-129 Athena Cluster.

# Updated policy will apply to all drug users

Good Samaritan Policy will treat all help-seeking incidents as safety issues

By William Navarre

MIT's Good Samaritan Policy has been updated to protect students who seek help after using drugs be-

"Many of you have called for expanding the amnesty rules beyond just alcohol to apply to medical emergencies involving prohibited substances," Nelson wrote in an email to students Thursday. "Simply put, I

agree with you."

Broadly, the main idea of the Good Samaritan Policy has always been that MIT wants to encourage students to seek help when they find themselves or their peers in emergency situations. In the past, this has meant that when students seek help for an alcohol-related emergency, MIT treated the associated alcohol usage as a "health and safety matter," not as a "disciplinary incident."

This principle will now apply to students using drugs besides alcohol.

The policy stipulates that students have a responsibility to call for help whenever a peer is in danger due to drug use.

A second, more minor, change is that the policy and its protections will apply to student groups as well as to individual students: groups that seek help when its members (or others) are in dangerous situations will not face will not face disciplinary actions.

While disciplinary action will not be taken against students protected by the policy, MIT may still require that students involved with a drug or alcohol incident participate in follow-up educational or counseling.

In addition to introducing the updated Good Samaritan Policy, Nelson used the email to introduce herself to students and announced that, beginning Sept. 9, she will hold office hours each Friday from 11 a.m. until noon.

#### U.S. TOOK HOME 121 MEDALS AT OLYMPICS

That's, like, eleven times eleven. **SPORTS, p. 17** 

#### SUICIDE SQUAD

Could have been better. Should have been better. **ARTS**, p. 19

#### **FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS**

It, on the other hand, was on point. **ARTS, p. 19** 



#### GROWING UP WITH POKEMON GO

Videogames on the path to adulthood. **CAMPUS LIFE**, **p. 8** 

#### THREE CROSSWORDS

Welcome back! **FUN**, **p. 6** 

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2 The Tech
Friday, August 26, 2016

**WEATHER** 

# Rain to preface enjoyable weekend

By Vince Agard
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A hot, humid, and potentially rainy Friday will precede a spectacularly sunny weekend. A significant southwesterly breeze will impose warm, moist air on southern New England today, causing temperatures to peak near 90°F (32°C). Dew points hovering near 70°F (21°C) will characterize an unpleasantly humid afternoon. An approaching cold front will bring scattered

showers to the area, so the possibility of rain will persist throughout the day. Any rain that does find the Institute could be heavy at times.

The cold front will pass through the Boston area overnight, and the ensuing air mass will make for fantastic weekend weather. Sunshine, mild temperatures, and light winds will abound on both Saturday and Sunday, before the possibility of rain returns on Monday with the approach of another front.

#### **Extended Forecast**

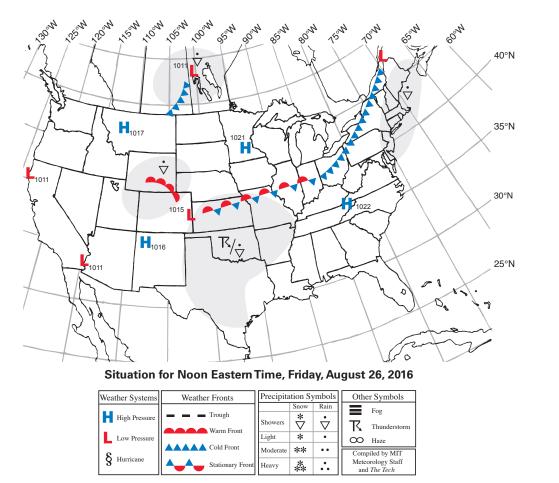
Today: Mostly cloudy, warm and humid with a chance of showers throughout the day. High 89°F (32°C), with winds SW at 10-12 mph, becoming NW late.

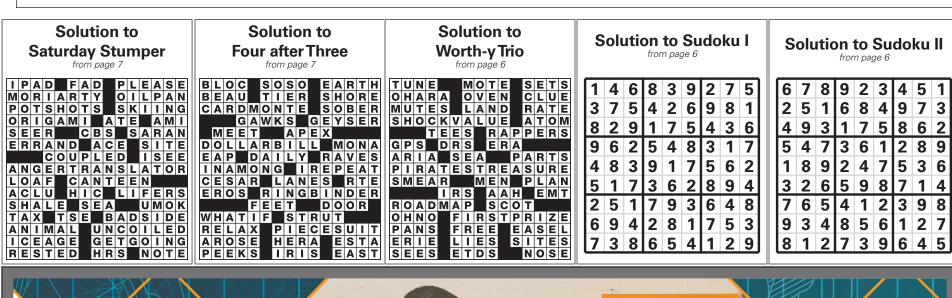
Tonight: Clearing late, low 68°F (20°C). Winds NW at 5-10 mph.

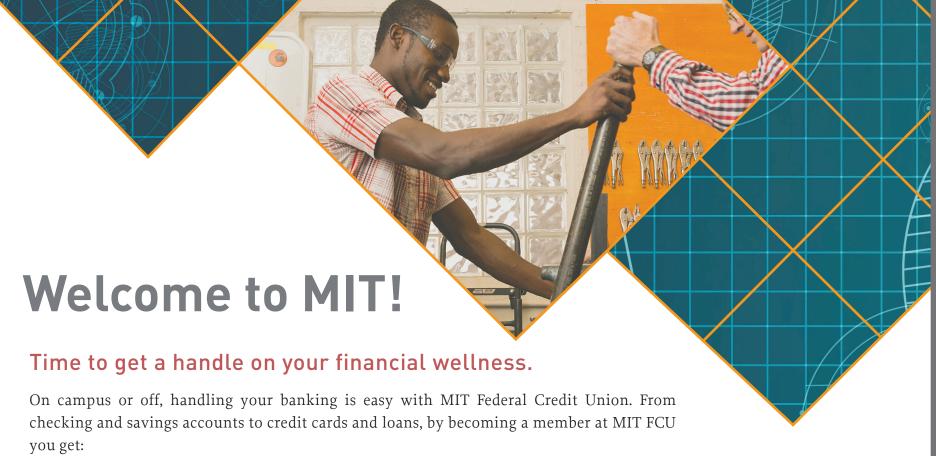
**Tomorrow:** Sunny and pleasant, high 84°F (29°C). Winds NE at 5-10 mph becoming E in the afternoon.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, highs near 80°F (27°C).

Monday: A chance of showers, highs in the mid 80s °F (29°C).







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# The socioeconomic status of transgender people in India

#### A call to treat the causes and effects of discrimination

Growing up in India, we often came across "Hijras," people who we understood were somehow labeled as different. Although they were poorly integrated into society, Hijras sometimes came over when there was an auspicious event at home, such as a marriage or the birth of a child. Despite being deemed the harbingers of good luck, Hijras were often spotted begging for money at traffic intersections. While they were often treated with disdain, growing up, we did not exactly know what was distinct about them or why they were social outcasts. The literal English translation of Hijra is Eunuch, which could be misleading. In reality, "Hijra" is a name for a member of the transgender community in North and Western India. Members of this community were assigned the male gender at birth but identify with the female gender, which as in any place of the world, comes with challenges. As part of the MIT chapter of the Association for India's Development (AID), we were particularly interested in learning about the Hijras' socioeconomic status.

Hijras are treated as social outcasts in modern India. However, they form an ancient social group that has been recognized for roughly 4,000 years and depicted in India's epic literature and temple sculptures. Unfortunately, the status of transgender women in India deteriorated during the colonial period, when several laws criminalizing them were enforced. Their status has barely improved since India's independence in 1947. Indeed, the modern-day Hijra experience is predominantly one of social inequality. Data suggest that the most common livelihoods for Hijras include begging, dancing, and engaging in sex work. Multiple reports indicate that the transgender community in India suffers from higher rates of HIV infection, and several reports also suggest that transgender people experience police harassment.

Several fundamental policies and cultural changes would empower the transgender community in India. On the policy level, laws guaranteeing the Hijras' rights

would serve to improve their safety, and affirmative action programs could help lift their socioeconomic status. In both of these regards, we support The Right for Transgender Persons Bill of 2014, a version of which was approved by the Union Cabinet of the Indian government on July 2016. It declares certain forms of oppression or discrimination to be punishable offenses by law, including forcing transgender people to beg, denying them access to public places, or forcing them to leave their houses or villages. Further, it seeks to amend the Indian Penal Code to include sexual offenses against transgender people. From an education standpoint, the proposed law also envisions the creation of a national council that would help provide transgender students with scholarships, textbooks, and college accommodations. However, despite its meaningful strengths, there are several critical deficiencies in the bill. For one, it follows a regressive and very narrow definition of transgender people, defining them as a combination of female and male or neither wholly female nor wholly male. In addition, it relies heavily on bureaucratic processes such as appointing a "District Screening Committee" to issue transgender "certificates," and it does not call for community input to create the national council. We believe that although the bill contains some positive elements, it still lacks the provisions required to bring about true change. We hope that lawmakers will involve input from the affected community and its activists.

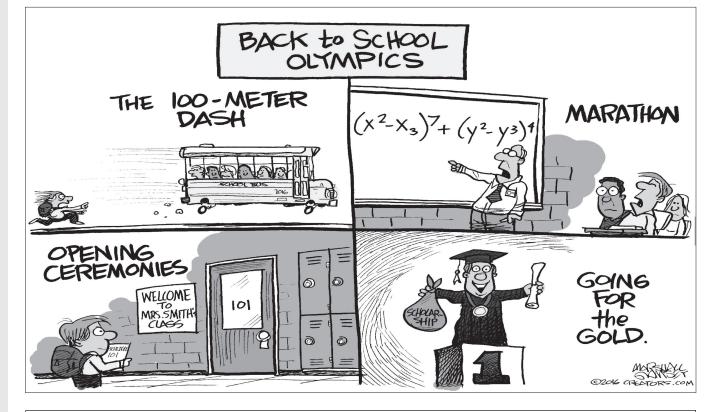
In addition, we recognize that to help lift the transgender community and broaden the opportunities open to its members, it is critical to incite a paradigm shift with society at large. The Indian government and NGOs can launch advertising campaigns in newspapers and television channels to raise awareness about the day-to-day struggles in the transgender community. Similar campaigns in India have successfully raised awareness about female child education, consumer rights, HIV/AIDS, and various other social issues.

These campaigns could help eradicate the prevalent stigmas against transgender people. In a similar vein, realistic portrayals of transgender characters in popular movies and theater will emphasize their existence as an integral part of society. School education can also play an important role by including content that discusses stories and individuals from within the transgender community, in order to sensitize young students and remove biases at an early stage.

Fortunately, recent developments in the last couple years have signaled progress. An Indian Supreme Court ruling allowed for the use of "third-gender" as an option on official paperwork. The Supreme Court also urged the Indian government to consider transgender people as socially and economically disadvantaged, so that they can be offered benefits under India's extensive affirmative action programs. More recently, India received its first transgender mayor of a city, first transgender police officer, and first transgender director of an institute. The metro rail authority in the southern Indian city of Kochi decided to reserve some customer care and cleaning jobs for the transgender community, a move welcomed by many.

We hope that this article offers a helpful perspective on the state of the Hijras, and that some readers are motivated to get involved with governmental bodies and NGOs working to improve the status of transgender people in India and elsewhere in the world. With a holistic approach targeting both the societal mindsets that lead to discrimination as well as the effects of discrimination, the living conditions of India's Hijra community could drastically improve. As individuals, we believe that our greatest contribution to this cause is to stand up and speak whenever societal norms do not live up to our morals.

Ankur Gupta and Ananth Govind Rajan are Ph.D. students in the Department for Chemical Engineering. Both writers are members of MIT's Association for India's Development (AID).



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Friday, August 26, 2016

The Tech 5

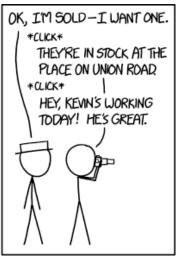
#### [1719] Superzoom

I LOVE THESE SUPERZOOM CAMERAS. FOR A FEW HUNDRED DOLLARS YOU CAN TAKE PICTURES OF MOON CRATERS AND JUPITER'S CLOUDS.









\*click\* Let him know he's got a stain on his shirt, though.

#### [1720] Horses

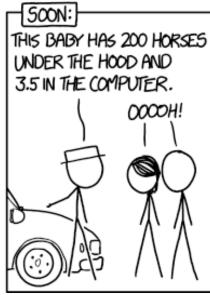
DRUNK DRIVING WAS LESS OF A PROBLEM BEFORE CARS. IF YOU GOT ON YOUR HORSE DRUNK AND FELL ASLEEP, IT COULD JUST WALK HOME.



AND IF YOU TRIED TO RIDE INTO A TREE, THE HORSE COULD BE LIKE "NO." FORGET HUMAN DRIVERS-

FORGET HUMAN DRIVERS— THAT'S THE BENCHMARK WE SHOULD BE JUDGING SELF-DRIVING CARS AGAINST.





This car has 240% of a horse's decision-making ability and produces only 30% as much poop.

#### [1722] Debugging

A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE, SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE

by Randall Munroe

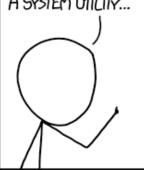
I WAS TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY MY BROWSER WAS ACTING WEIRD:



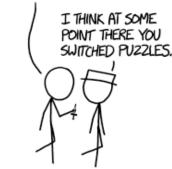
TURNS OUT IT WASN'T THE BROWSER-THE ISSUE WAS WITH MY KEYBOARD DRIVER.



DEBUGGING THAT LED ME TO A MYSTERIOUS ERROR MESSAGE FROM A SYSTEM UTILITY...



ANYWAY, LONG STORY SHORT, I FOUND THE SWORD OF MARTIN THE WARRIOR.



Martin's sword.

When you Google an error message and it gets no results, you can be pretty sure you've found a clue to the location of

#### [1724] **Proofs**

... LET'S ASSUME THERE EXISTS SOME FUNCTION F(a,b,c...) WHICH PRODUCES THE CORRECT ANSWER—



THIS IS GOING TO BE ONE OF THOSE WEIRD, DARK-MAGIC PROOFS, ISN'T IT? I CAN TELL.



UHAT? NO, NO, IT'S A PERFECTLY SENSIBLE CHAIN OF REASONING.



NOW, LET'S ASSUME THE CORRECT ANSWER WILL EVENTUALLY BE WRITTEN ON THIS BOARD AT THE COORDINATES (x, y). IF WE—



Next, let's assume the decision of whether to take the Axiom of Choice is made by a deterministic process ...

#### Sudoku I

Solution, page 2

					9	2	7	5
3		5		2				1
	2		1					
	6	2		4				7
		3				5		
5				6		8	9	
					3		4	
6				8		7		3
6 7	3	8	6					

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

#### Sudoku II

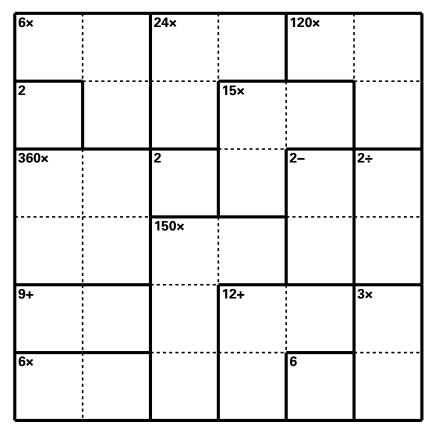
Solution, page 2

			9	2		4	5	
4		3			5			2
	4	7		6	1	2		
1	8			4			3	6
		6	5	9		7	1	
7			4			3		8
	1	2		3	9			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

#### Techdoku I

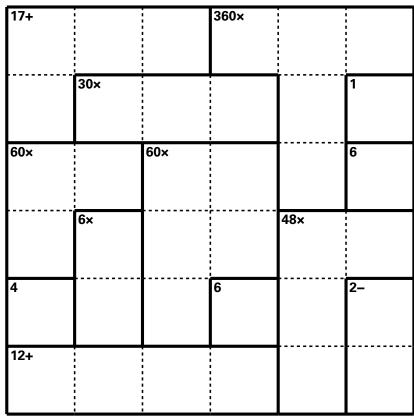
Solution, page 15



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1-6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

#### Techdoku II

Solution, page 15



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1-6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

#### Worth-y Trio by Gail Grabowski

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Song
- 5 Speck of dust 9 Complete collections
- 13 Scarlett of Gone with the
- 15 Baking appliance 16 Hint for a detective
- 17 Softens, as sound
- 18 End a plane flight
- 19 Evaluate
- 20 Potential to cause outrage 22 Molecule part
- 23 Golfer's pegs
- 24 Jay Z and Dr. Dre
- 26 Auto navigation aid: Abbr. 29 Physicians: Abbr.
- 30 Historical period
- 31 Opera solo
- 33 Salty body of water 35 Performers' roles
- 40 Buccaneers' plunder
- 44 Mascara mishap
- 45 Guys 46 Prepare carefully

- 47 Tax agcy.
- 50 Ooh and
- 52 CPR expert 53 Motorist's reference
- 57 Glasgow native
- 59 "Yikes!"
- 60 Gold medal, for example
- 65 Skillets and woks
- 66 At no cost
- 67 Artist's stand
- 68 One of the Great Lakes 69 Isn't truthful
- 70 Locations
- 71 Gets a glimpse of
- 72 Approximate takeoff hrs. 73 Scent detector

#### **DOWN**

- 1 Male turkeys
- 2 Informal refusal
- 3 Western alliance: Abbr.
- 4 Build, as a house 5 Syrup in baked beans
- 6 Egg-shaped
- 7 Teacher's job security

- 8 Make beloved
- 9 Paper fragment
- 10 Make happy
- 11 One-on-one instructor 12 Appears to be
- 14 Posed a question
- 21 Poem
- 25 Baby Bear's dad
- 26 Empty spaces
- 27 \_\_ and proper (strait-laced)
- 28 Kingly address
- 32 Small battery
- 34 24-hr. bank device
- 36 Poisonous snake 37 Regulation
- 38 Disney World shuttle
- 39 Placed in the mailbox
- 41 Quick haircut
- 42 Make a new judgment on
- 43 Pass, as legislation 48 Fund-raising lottery
- 49 Holy \_\_ (one of the Trinity)
- 51 Wishes earnestly 53 Boxing ring borders
- 54 Chicago airport
- 17 18 19 22 20 25 26 | 27 | 28 30 32 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 40 42 |43 44 46 47 48 49 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 62 |63 |64 65 66 69 68 70 71 72
- 55 Sharpshooter Oakley
- 56 Medicinal amounts
- 58 Prepare for a marathon
- 61 Marsh grass
- 62 "That's all there \_\_ it!"
- 63 Letters symbolizing sleep
- 64 Otherwise











UNLESS IT'S FOR A STUDENT DISCOUNT. THEN I'M DEFINITELY A STUDENT. MAYBE YOU SHOULD STUDY THIS FURTHER.

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

#### Four after Three by Mark McClain

Solution, page 2

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Voting group
- 5 No great shakes
- 9 Astronauts' starting point
- 14 Boyfriend
- 15 Layer of a cake
- 16 Beach locale 17 Three-\_\_ (sidewalk scam)
- 19 Rational
- 20 Stares openly
- 21 Hot-water gusher
- 22 Track event
- 24 Hill's high point
- 26 Three-\_\_ (phoniness symbol)
- 29 \_\_ Lisa (da Vinci work) 33 "The Raven" monogram
- 34 Every 24 hours
- 35 Critics' blessings
- 36 Surrounded by 38 "To reiterate . . ."
- 40 Labor leader Chavez
- 41 Road paths
- 43 Numbered rd.
- 44 Greek Cupid

- 45 Three-\_\_ (notebook type)
- 47 Podiatry concerns
- 48 Way into a room
- 49 "Let's suppose . . ."
- 53 Walk with a swagger 56 Chill out
- 57 Three-\_\_ (office attire)
- 61 Stood up
- 62 Wife of Zeus
- 63 ¿Cómo \_\_ usted? 64 Quick looks
- 65 Part of the eye 66 Right, on a map

#### **DOWN**

- 1 UKTV network
- 2 Grazing field
- 3 Rowboat implement
- 4 Stick weapon
- 5 Pack neatly
- 6 Pigpen comment
- 7 Leave the pier
- 8 Mine extraction
- 9 County near London
- 10 Mariner's greeting

- 11 Steals from
- 12 Genealogy diagram
- 13 German mister
- 18 Bullfighter
- 21 Hairdo stiffener
- 22 Complainer, so to speak
- 23 City on the Rio Grande
- 25 Practicing, as a trade
- 26 Melt a winter glaze from
- 27 Sought office 28 Gross distortion
- 29 Welcome Center freebie
- 30 Take too far
- 31 Less disheveled
- 32 Late-blooming flower 35 Leftover matter
- 37 Pas' partners
- 39 Confederate soldier
- 42 More jittery
- 45 Basketball arbiter
- 46 Fail to notice
- 47 Sets firmly 49 Rolled-up lunch
- 50 In this spot
- 51 Natural balm
- 15 16 17 19 18 20 21 22 | 23 24 25 27 | 28 29 |30 |31 |32 33 36 38 39 40 41 42 44 48 50 |51 |52 53 54 55 58 | 59 | 60 56 62 63 65 66
- 52 Line on a to-do list 54 Actress Hatcher 55 Some HDTVs

57 \_\_ Beta Kappa

- 58 Nation n. of Mexico
  - 59 Part of TGIF 60 Art on an arm, for short

#### Saturday Stumper by Matthew Sewell

Solution, page 2

#### **ACROSS**

- he FAA approved it for cockpits in 2011
- 5 Vogue
- 8 Exclamation of exasperation 14 Literary "greatest schemer of all time"
- 16 Leak-prone auto part
- 17 Random squawking 18 Certain bum's rush
- 19 Production in creases
- 20 Downed 21 Papeete pal
- 22 Recondite revelator
- 23 Judge Judy syndicator
- 25 Former combat-boot insole material
- 27 Something handled by TaskRabbit 30 Term in baseball, golf and
- tennis 32 Place
- 33 As one
- 35 Cry of apprehension
- 36 Comic interpreter for "No Drama Obama"
- 40 Do some chilling

- 41 Survivalist necessity
- 43 Smashin' fruit punch brand 44 Long-term careerists
- 50 Word in three Yellow Submarine instrumental titles
- 52 Uneager "Fine" 53 Sap or stress
- 54 Literature Nobelist 23
- years after GBS 56 Villain's embrace 59 Meaning of the Greek root
- of "zodiac" 61 Sprung

again

- 62 Paleoclimatology subject
- 63 Leave 64 Able to give it one's all
- 65 AT&T Park "splash hits" 66 What's so

#### **DOWN**

- 1 Ask too much
- 2 Less sterling
- 3 Indies, vis-à-vis blockbusters

- 4 Ignominious
- 6 It must often be entered headfirst
- 7 Antonym of "eu-" 8 Appointment
- 9 Warming-up results 10 \_\_ blue (crimson
- alternative) 11 Helmeted harvester
- 12 City on El Camino Real
- 13 Contrive 15 Cry of apprehension
- 20 Trip up 24 On \_\_ (all things
- considered) 26 Kimchi quesadilla category
- 28 Easter might follow it 29 Whence comes "Santa
- Claus" 31 Convertible in the first Daytona 500 (1959)

34 Something given to heroes

- 36 Scottish form of a "Great" ruler's name
- 37 "Inconceivable!" 38 Some spiral systems
- 10 12 | 13 16 15 18 19 20 21 22 24 26 27 32 36 | 37 | 38 39 40 41 42 43 48 52 53 57 56 59 61 62 63 65
- 39 Product made from ti
- 45 Billy the Kid, in Young Guns

51 Saul's soldier in Samuel

- 46 Pack rat, e.g.
- 47 Timetable, latterly 49 Flaubert's floor
- 55 With 58 Down, Yukon Quest participant
  - 57 Fronts
- 58 See 55 Down
- 60 Beer\_
- 61 What may accompany a facepalm

### Student evolved into adult

Trying to learn perspective

**By Madison Evans** 

A lot of students at MIT spend at least one of their summers in Boston. This was my first summer in the city, and I was excited to explore. As the days passed, however, I settled into a routine: I'd wake up, eat breakfast, go to work, come home, eat dinner, shower, sleep, and repeat. I found it increasingly difficult to go out and experience the city.

Enter Pokemon Go.

Pokemon Go is a new mobile game recently released by Nintendo. Players walk around their cities to catch the Pokemon that pop up on their phones.

My office, located near Downtown Crossing, entered a frenzy. "Oh my god! Look at the Dragonite over there," one of the interns would squeal. "Let's walk here for lunch — I heard there are Scythers," a coworker would say later in the day.

As a result, I spend every lunch break walking for 30 to 40 minutes, often times in parks, soaking up as much nature as I can possibly get. The more I walk, the more eggs I can hatch. Eggs are an item you can collect in the game, and the app uses your GPS location to track how much you walk; if you walk 2 km, 5 km, or 10 km, you can hatch an egg and possibly get Pokemon that don't normally show up in places you frequent. My Pokemon and I have adventured to new places together, and I've seen as much of Boston these past two weeks as I have my two years here.

One function in particular that helps me explore is the Pokestop function. Different locations in the real world are "portals" where you can get new items like Pokeballs or Potions. They can also function as hot spots where Pokemon are "lured" to.

Because of Pokestops, I discovered Ralph Waldo Emerson's birthplace marker at Downtown Crossing on my way to work. Before, I didn't know that he was born in Boston. I dragged one of the other interns over to the spot during lunch, and we read a section of his essay "Nature."

In the essay, Emerson wrote about the "envoys of beauty." He suggested that if stars at night were a rarity humanity could come see together, maybe we would appreciate them more. And in a way, Pokemon Go has opened up a chance for me to see the "envoys of beauty" around me — things



that normally would have gone under my radar, like this marker, are easily accessible to be appreciated; they're a new discovery.

The marker was blatantly displayed on the side of the Macy's wall along the street, but it took exploring the Pokemon world for me to notice it. This feeling of uncovering a hidden world of history and culture in the city I call home, at least around Downtown Crossing, may fade over time — just as the beauty of stars can fade if you see them every night. The beautiful becomes normal.

I've learned more about MIT as well. I never knew that the student center had an art gallery, for example. My friend Jessica and I scrambled to the third floor after seeing a Pokestop. I caught a Paras in front of a beautiful painting of someone's pet cat. I learned the names of a lot of sculptures around MIT — for example, if you walk along Memorial Drive, there is a light

brown sculpture located outside. According to Pokemon Go, this is known as the TV Man.

The game has even gotten me to talk to new people. I'm used to just briskly walking from work straight to my T-stop in Downtown Crossing, but at the end of almost every week, I stop in excitement for a violin duo known as Sorry in Advance. They perform exciting covers of current pop songs, such as "Lazy" by Bruno Mars, and they never fail to brighten up my day. I saw them taking a break after doing a set, swiping around on their phones — very obviously playing Pokemon Go. Bubbly with excitement, I was able to go up to them and geek out over all the best places in the area to catch Pokemon. I thanked them for livening up the square. They were kind and so happy to hear about new places to visit. I put up a lure so that people would (hopefully) come to the spot and hear them play during their next set.

Another time, while adventuring, I met a mother on MIT's campus whose daughter was a freshman teaching for one of MIT's summer programs. The mom was about to buy more Pokeballs, and I showed her how to get free ones by walking around campus and visiting Pokestops. I taught her other basics the game doesn't take you through. She was excited about the game and downloaded it so that she could hang out with her daughter more — they were going to go walk the Freedom Trail together that night, and she bubbled with excitement over skills she would get to show her daughter.

This game has a lot of potential. Players can go out, meet new people, and explore. We can adventure across this grand city, and even the world, with our friends by our side and monsters in our pockets.



Don't be devastatingly average. Join *The Tech*.

Email join@tech.mit.edu

Friday, August 26, 2016

The Tech 9

#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

#### The restoration of a tarnished icon

The biopic Hands of Stone offers an insightful vindication of Panamanian boxer Roberto Durán



COURTESY RICO TORRES © 2015 THE WEINSTEIN COMPAN

Usher Raymond and Edgar Ramarez star in Hands of Stone.

#### By Roberto Perez-Franco

Hands of Stone is writer and director Jonathan Jakubowicz's quixotic project of bringing the life of Roberto Durán to the big screen. Unless you are over fifty years old, a scholar of boxing history, or a Panamanian like me, chances are you won't know who Roberto Durán is, and you may assume that this movie is not for you. Actually, if you do know who Durán is, unless you are a Panamanian, chances are that what you know about the man will be mostly about an infamous decision he took 36 years ago, one that haunts him to this day and has come to define his career as seen by foreign eyes. But it would be a mistake to assume that you know the real story of Roberto Durán, or to dismiss this movie as something that would not interest you. Because Durán's life is a deeply human story of grit in the face of adversity, of courage and betrayal, and — above all — it is a story of

redemption. So, who is the guy? Roberto Durán, a national hero in my native Panama, is widely regarded as one of the greatest boxers ever. When he and American boxing legend Sugar Ray Leonard fought for the first time on June 20, 1980, in Montreal, Durán had an astounding record: a single loss in seventy fights, most of them won by knock-out. Leonard, an Olympic gold medalist, was undefeated and considered the favorite to win the fight. Their clash was a brutal affair, which Leonard described (using Ali's phrase) as coming closer to death than he ever had before. Leonard fought valiantly to the bitter end, but Durán proved superior and won fairly by decision of the judges. A rematch was scheduled for November 25, 1980, in New Orleans. Near the end of the eighth round of this second fight, Roberto Durán — the most macho of all fighters, the man with the hands of stone - quit, cold turkey, out of the blue. The boxing world was in shock. Quitting during a fight is a cardinal sin against the spirit of boxing. That this sin was committed by Roberto Durán, one of the fiercest, most brutal boxers ever, during one of the most important fights of his career, made it even harder to believe.

And it is precisely on this account that Jakubowicz's *Hands of Stone* should be seen as a great success: it manages to explain the inexplicable and to restore the luster to a temporarily tarnished icon. Through an accurate depiction of

Durán and his personal history in Panama, the film renders the man transparent to foreign eyes, and dissipates the seeming mystery behind Durán's fatidic decision.

Even though it features a couple of big names in the cast, the film has the feeling of an indie production, albeit a very good one. Many of the scenes were shot in real locations where Roberto Durán grew up, including the poor neighborhood of El Chorrillo. Dramatic historical scenes were recreated, in a largely factual manner, against the backdrop of real places. For example, the Administration Building of the Panama Canal Administration was used in a recreation of the tragic events of January 9, 1964, when Panamanian students and American citizens stationed in the Canal Zone clashed over the right to fly the Panamanian flag in designated places. Some inaccurate details will catch the eye of more knowledgeable viewers. For example, during some scenes shot in the Panama Canal locks of Miraflores, the recent expansion work can be seen in the background, decades before it started. In a panoramic view in another scene, the foundations of the Bridge of the Americas are shown as they look today, not as they did decades ago (even though the bridge itself is CGI'd to look as it did during Durán's childhood).

Robert De Niro, the biggest name in the cast, plays the legendary trainer Ray Arcel, who led Durán to the world championship, and serves as a backbone to the narrative of the movie. Rising star Edgar Ramírez (Carlos, The Liberator) plays the man himself, Roberto Durán. The role required from Ramírez intense training in boxing and language. His rendering of Panamanian speech patterns is right on the money, as is his channeling of Duran's inner animal, curse words and all. The breathtaking Ana de Armas, a relatively

unknown actress of Cuban origin who is currently filming Blade Runner 2. plays Durán's wife. Felicidad Iglesias, and also comes across as a very convincing Panamanian girl. Salsa music legend Ruben Blades (who also contributed to the film's soundtrack) plays Carlos Eleta, Durán's manager, enabler and later — his unwilling Judas. A very buffed Usher Raymond brings to life the suave vet ferocious Sugar Ray Leonard. Usher was trained by Leonard himself for the role. And Óscar Jaenada, who was magnificent in Cantinflas, plays here another eccentric character to perfection: Chaflan, Durán's childhood

I was pleased with the respectful treatment that *Hands of Stone* gives to historical fact concerning not only Durán's life but also the history of his country, my country. It shows Durán as he was: not a thinker, not a gentleman, but a merciless fighter. Very sensitive topics are dealt with in an accurate manner. However, what pleased me even more was to see a film that finally has the courage to show the complex reason behind Durán's sudden decision to quit: it is a very deep and personal reason, not easily brought to the surface. Hands of Stone explores the astonishing outcome of Durán vs. Leonard II, without relying (like ESPN's documentary No Más did, shamelessly) on the mumbling words - overflowing with excuses — of an older, ashamed Durán trying to explain himself. Instead, it looks at the facts. It dissects the life of a young Durán in the streets of El Chorrillo, at a time when his country felt oppressed (with good reason) by the unfair treatment it had received from the United States regarding the Canal. It shows how Durán rose to prominence as a ferocious fighter, his personal shame and pride, and his sense of self. It unveils the private interests of those surrounding him and managing his career, and the chain of events that led to his rushed and ill-conceived rematch against Leonard. It reveals the man's inner struggles against the background of his circumstances. By the end of the film, the true reason for the infamous No Más episode has become perfectly intelligible in the larger narrative of Durán's brilliant career.

\*\*\*\*

Hands of Stone

Directed by Jonathan Jakubowicz

Starring Robert De Niro, Edgar Ramirez, Ana de Armas

Rated R

**Now Playing** 



#### **EVENT**

# MIT Libraries Ice Cream Social

#### Thursday, September 1, 3-5pm

Lipchitz Courtyard, Building 14

All freshmen welcome for free Ben & Jerry's ice cream with the Libraries!





10 THE TECH FRIDAY, AUG

# THE COMMENSAGE OF THE DAILY CO

On behalf of *The Tech*, we'd like to welcome the Class of 2020 to MIT! You'll find in the following pages a curated guide to this year's Residence Exploration (REX) events. We asked REX chairs to submit up to 25 events each and provide to short paragraphs about their living groups.

At MIT, you have the special privilege of choosing which dorm you would like to live in. You should engage as much as possible in the fun events the dorms will host, so you can find the people you will love to hang out with for years to come. Visit other dorms even if you are satisfied in your current assignment, and remember that the people and culture of a dorm matter more than its physical amenities (or lack thereof). Switching dorms is more than possible, and don't forget that the many fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs) will also be recruiting in a couple weeks. You'll find a similar guide to FSILG events in an upcoming issue. Don't forget to have fun and pepper the upperclassmen with questions!

Maseeh Hall, Burton-Connor, and Simmons Hall did not submit events by The Tech's publication deadline. Simmons Hall also did not submit a description by The Tech's publication deadline.



#### Baker House

Baker House strives to be the most social dorm on campus! If you're lucky enough to end up here, we're sure you'll have a great freshman year. To find out more about our culture, and the things we do, come check out any of our REX events, especially the largest annual event, our Skyline Party!

—Baker VRPOs

#### **Burton-Conner**

Burton 1, Burton 2, Conner 2, Burton 3rd, Conner 3, Burton 4, Conner 4, Burton 5, Conner 5. Which one fits you? Show up and find out.

—Erick Hernandez '18

#### EAsT camPUS

You've probably heard stereotypes about us. Only about half of them are true. Come find out for yourselves which ones. While you're at it, help us build and eat our burgers.

—FRED

#### **MacGregor House**

Here at MacGregor we celebrate widely different cultures within our living community! The dorm is mostly singles (with the exception of three doubles) and is split into nine subsections called "Entries", each with its own community and culture. Whether you're into extreme sports, chilling with friends, playing smash, baking, or getting your hack on around campus, you can find a place here to call home. Get to know us! Explore the whole dorm, stop on every floor, and meet our beloved MacGregorites! (We promise we don't bite!)

—Miguel Del Rio '19

#### Maseeh Hall

-just across the street from class -food all the time -some floors have culture

-clean all around 5 stars great time

-Unknown

#### McCormick Hall

McCormick Hall is MIT's only all-female residence hall, located 5 minutes from Lobby 7 and a few steps away from the Student Center. McCormick consists of two towers and the annex.

McCormick has two large living rooms and two penthouses where residents can play piano, socialize, or study with friends. McCormick also has an active House Government which holds weekly events in our lobby and living rooms including movie nights, postexam study breaks, and smoothie nights! Make-your-own pizza dinners

hosted by our Heads of House and fondue nights in the penthouse are some of our famous annual events.

-McCormick REX Chairs

MAP

#### **New House**

It's hard to describe New House and its nine member houses with only a few words, because we encompass such diversity. We're artists, engineers, athletes, musicians, builders, scholars, thinkers, doers, and so much more. But underneath this array of talents and passions lies our unifying factor: community. We live in New House because our family is here. In each house, we form bonds with our nextdoor neighbors, and our individual communities come together to create New House, our amazing home. (We also are brought together by the fact that we really like cooking food. And eating food.)

—Sarah Wharton '17

#### **Next House**

Next House is better than winning Who Wants to Be a Millionaire. It's better than edible flowers, better than finding buried treasure under your pillow, and it's better than locking eyes with your soulmate across a crowded Tastefully Furnished Lounge. It's even better than realizing that there's one more skittle in the bag, and it's your favorite flavor.

—Caralyn Cutlip '18

#### Random Hall

Come and be merry at MIT's smallest and nerdiest dorm, Random Hall! Home of The Milk, a preposterously large board game collection, a lovely roofdeck, and many more oddities. Wander our eight distinctive floors, navigate our loopy halls, and participate in our many and varied events! Tours running from 10:17 a.m.-10:17 p.m. Sunday through Tuesday, leaving from desk every half hour.

—yfn random rush chairs

#### Senior Haus

At Senior House, we are less of a dorm and more of one big, happy, dysfunctional family. We pride ourselves in our culture of acceptance and open-mindedness. Although Haus is comprised of mostly singles, we are one of the most social dorms on campus. Each of our eight halls has its own unique culture and traditions. Senior House is a refuge from the crushing academics of MIT. Despite the recent decisions by the administration, Haus will live on. We welcome anyone who is interested to drop by and see what we're all about. Haus is home.

— Maddie Cain



MacGregor

Simmons

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Senior Haus QUEUE UP WITH MADDIE AND INGRID. COME PLAY LEAGUE OF LEGENDS WITH YOUR FAVORITE SENIOR HAUS RESIDENTS!!! MADDIE WILL BE BLITZCRANK AND INGRID WILL BE AHRI!!!

#### Friday, August 26, 2016

1:00 AM

1:00 AM - 2:00 AM **East Campus** EC Rush. This is Rush. I bought gummy tools.

#### 3:00 AM

3:00 AM - 4:00 AM **East Campus** Courtyard Grillin.' What if airplanes served Rush burgers?

#### 11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM **East Campus** 

EHS Safety Orientation. What if EHS comes to inspect your room?

#### 2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM **East Campus** Dino Dig. Is that T-rex trying to procreate with the brontesaurus?

6:00 PM

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM **East Campus** Hair Dyeing. I look intimidating? That's been my goal for like three years.

**McCormick** 

**Baker** 

**Burton-Conner** 

Random

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Senior Haus** Animal Haus. We will be showing Animal House and serving animal crackers, sodas, and fruit.

#### 10:00 PM

 $10{:}30~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $11{:}30~\mathrm{PM}$  Senior Haus

PLAY LEAGUE AGAIN WITH MADDIE AND INGRID!!. WOW! AGAIN!? YES AGAIN! "I start every day by eating a healthy breakfast then pwning noobs until my fingers bleed." - Ingrid Zhang, Silver II

#### Saturday, August 27, 2016

9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM **MacGregor House** 

Breakfast. Cookie Monster: "It isn't hard each morning to keep me satisfied. Just give me a softboiled cookie and a glass of cookie juice on the side"

#### 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM East Campus

Courtyard Grillin'. Why aren't there burger mufflers?

#### 2:00 PM

SOURCE: STAMEN MAPS AND OPENSTEETMAP

**EAsT camPUS** 

Memorial Dr

**Senior Haus** 

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM **Next House** Just arrived on campus? Have no idea what to do? Come chat with some Nexties about deep issues, like life, love, aspirations, and donuts. Doughnuts? JDoanuts? It's an intense debate.

#### 4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM **East Campus** Courtyard Shenanigans. I promised to be morally straight, and I've done so bad at both the moral and the straight.

#### 7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Senior Haus** Gaze wistfully into the sunset and eat ice cream. Join us as we watch our favorite star journey through the sky.

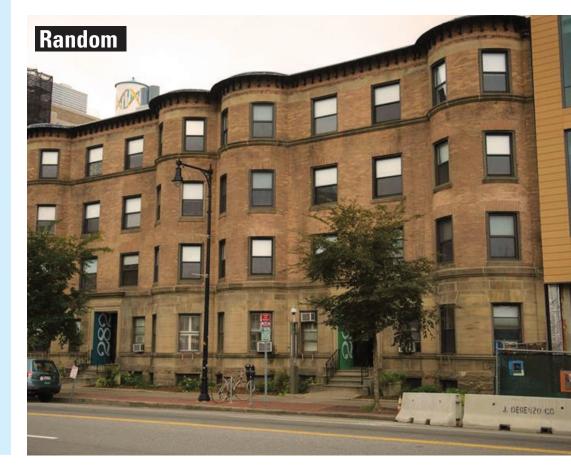
#### 8:00 PM

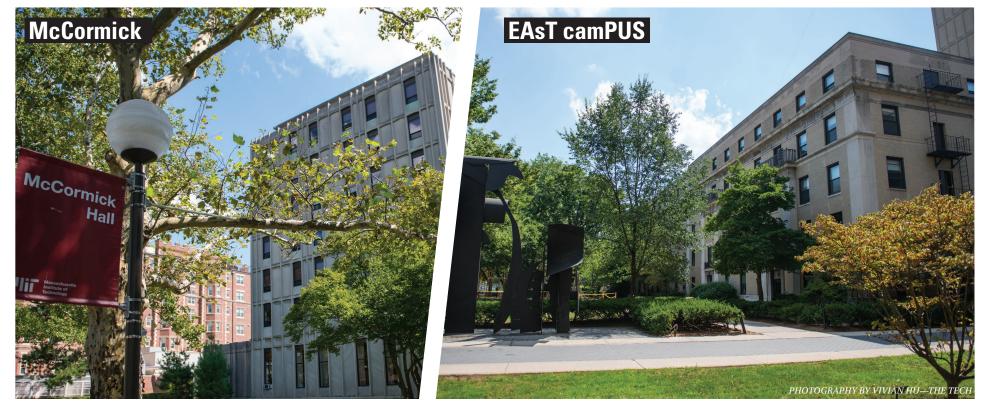
8:00 PM - 12:00 AM **MacGregor House** Hang Out in MacGregor Loung-

es. Explore MacGregor's lounges to find people to hang out with. If everywhere you look seems empty, feel free to come over to E Entry lounge!

8:00 PM - 10:30 PM **New House** Come drink tea and chill with one of the chillest living groups on campus. Snacks and dessert type things will also be provided.

8:00 PM - 9:45 PM **Senior Haus** Flying Objects. Who wouldn't want to see metal things flying through the air for hours? Join





Senior Haus residents for our favorite cinematic masterpiece making fun of airplane disaster movies.

#### 10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 11:45 PM East Campus Overcommitting 101. One time all four of my Slacks went off at the same time. It was the scariest thing. 10:00 PM - 11:59 PM Next House What's all this buzz? It's just regular frisbee, but in darkness and with glowing frisbees. Meet in Lobby.

#### Sunday, August 28, 2016 9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MacGregor House

Breakfast. "I can eat you at breakfast, not because I am a monster; it is only because you are too cute and yummy." - M.F. Moonzajer

#### 11:00 AM

#### 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM MacGregor House

Beat Jose at Rock Band in E Entry. Jose is a Rock Band God. Can you beat his high scores? Even if you're not a rocker, come enjoy the company and candy while watching others!

#### 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM **McCormick**

String Art. Start off the school year with a Pinterest-worthy creation to personalize your room! Event hosted in McCormick's Green Liv-

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Next House I scream! You scream! Take your hand out of the nitrogen and grab a spoon! Join us for fun times and yummy ice cream!

#### 12:00 PM **FYRE** applications open!

fyre.mit.edu

#### 12:00 PM

#### 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM MacGregor House

Learn to Roll with A Entry. Learn the best technique for rolling your burrito with the highest entry in MacG and breathe in the best view in the house. Join us for some Chipotle!

12:00 PM - 11:45 PM East Campus EC Rush. For six weeks I didn't exist. Then family for a week. Now Rush.

#### 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Next House

Come dine on our annual veggie banquet! Chow down on delicious vegetarian dishes while you gaze at the Charles River view, and meet some Nexties!

12:15 PM - 2:15 PM Random Hall Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Dumpling Hylomorphisms. Participate in a hylomorphism on dumplings by building them up and consuming them. Or just perform a metabolic reduction on food. (Vegan + Carnivorous options available)

12:45 PM - 2:15 PM Random Hall Random (Pecker Lounge): Chemistry and Cake. Cake is yummy. Chemistry is fun. Come eat cake and learn chemistry and about course 5!

#### 1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Baker House

Tours. Baker House tours, leaving every 30 minutes from the lobby. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM MacGregor

#### House Laser Tag and Water War Prep. The

mighty MacG warriors prep for a fight by fighting. Join us for an epic game of Laser Tag while we prepare for a more epic Water War!

#### 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM New House Craving popcorn and cotton can-

dy? Missing those fried oreos and hamburgers? Itching to play cornhole, burst-the-balloons, and other carnival games? Come chill with us New Housers! We have 20 pounds of cotton candy mix we need to get rid of. (Seriously. Please help us.)

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM McCormick Hall McCormick Dorm Tours. Tours every hour on the hour! Get to know McCormick's facilities and witness one of the best views of the Boston Skyline. Meet in McCormick's Front Lobby.

#### 2:00 PM

2:00 PM - 8:00 PM East Campus Dorm Diversity Training. I went to their formal and they were like "I've never met East Campus people before."

#### 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Senior Haus

Garment District Adventure Time. Emulate Finn the Human and Jake the Dog to the utmost of your ability while thrifting with Haus residents.

#### 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM New House

Fancy yourself the next Giuseppe Arcimboldo? Always wanted to make a portrait of Benedict Cucumberbatch? Use our ingredients and first class kitchen to compete to produce the most combobulating comestible. You're also welcome to just spectate/eat.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM New House

Too hot out? Secret desire to be a human bowling ball? Get the best of both worlds at slip 'n slide bowling!

#### 2:15 PM - 4:15 PM Random Hall Random (Pecker Lounge): Math

and Tea. Do you like Math? Do you like tea and cookies? If you answered yes, you should come to one of Random's most iconic REX events.

#### 2:15 PM - 5:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Hair

to Dye for. Is your current hair color too boring and natural? Then come and dye it any or all of the colors in the rainbow! (Feel free to come in at any time during the event.)

2:15 PM - 4:15 PM Random Hall Random (Foo): LN2 Ice Cream!. I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. Served steaming cold.

#### 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM New House

Come join us as we turn Desmond into an arcade with board games, card games, and retro video games! You can also take a break from playing and customize your own food.

#### 3:00 PM

#### 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM MacGregor House

Frilled Cheese with F Entry. What's a frilled cheese? Come to F-entry to discover or debate the answer, hang out with residents, and stuff your face with frilled cheese.

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM McCormick Hall Pokemon Hunt. Join us for an adventure around Cambridge and catch all the Pokemons! Meet in

#### 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Next House Travel to Morzack's Institute of

McCormick's Front Lobby.

Thaumaturgy — the finest adventuring academy in all the land! We welcome everyone, from first-time sorcerers to experienced paladins. Roll dice, meet friends, and team up with your fellow adventurers to survive the entrance exam of a lifetime!

#### 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Next House**

Resist, retrieve, recycle! Armed with but a handful of Nerf guns, ammunition, and an indeterminate number of comrades, can YOU rise to the challenge...of looting and disposing (properly!) of the enemy's trash? Next Sustain's twist on Capture the Flag!

#### 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM **Random Hall**

Random (Roofdeck): Spinning on the Roofdeck. Learn to spin balls on strings around your head without hitting yourself! Come hang out on our lovely roofdeck and learn the basics of the ancient art of Poi!

#### 4:00 PM

#### 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM MacGregor House

Sporcle Quizzes with D Entry. Fun music quizzes on Sporcle. Test your musical knowledge of past and present hits with the people of D-entry!

#### 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM **Next House**

Come join the Next Football Club for a game of pickup soccer! Only then, here and now, will you understand why soccer is a way of life. (All skill levels welcome. Feel free to join at any time.)

4:15 PM - 5:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Foo): Competitive Fanfiction!. Come write flash fiction and vote to determine the ULTI-

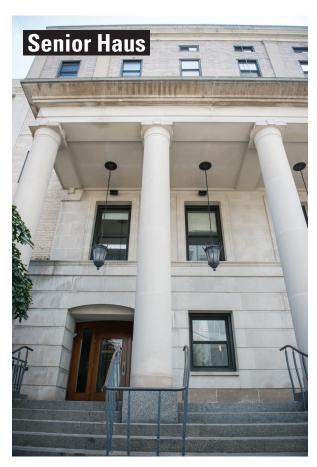
MATE PAIRING OF ALL TIME!!!!

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM **Burton Conner** [B3rd]. Back in 1892, some passionate MIT students started a band called the Good Whillicker Club.

Daily Confusion, Page 12









#### 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM

#### Orientation Kickoff

#### 7:00 PM

7:15 PM - 9:00 PM **MacGregor House** 

Cooking Hazards with H Entry. Cook with the hazards of H entry! Or just eat our food. Learn how to cut things that aren't you, avoid setting off fire alarms, and more.

7:15 PM - 9:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Sushi Making. Is going to pika too far? Let's make & eat sushi in Random instead!

7:15 PM - 9:15 PM **Senior Haus** SUPERPOMO. Was MTV actually a covert cultural operation perpetrated by Henry Kissinger and Andy Warhol? Come see an original play written and performed by haus residents to find out.

7:15 PM - 10:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Foo): CS and Juice. Listen to Randomites talk excitedly about Computer Science while solving the knapsack problem of your stomach and several varieties of sugary goodness.

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM **Burton Conner** [B2] Dance Central. Take your groovy selves to the Burton 2 floor lounge to play some Dance Central with some lovely B2 people!

7:30 PM - 10 PM **New House** 

Come eat New House! I mean, eat one of our 9 houses' signature dishes! Pls don't eat our pipes. We need those. Unless a house serves them as a signature dish. Then it's fair game.

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 11:45 PM **East Campus** East Side Party. You have to lube up the slide, so it can be the birth canal.

 $8:00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $10:00~\mathrm{PM}$  McCormick Hall

Sweets, Treats, and Board Games. We've got board games, card games, and tons more. Come to play, view the Boston skyline, and eat delicious desserts! Event hosted in McCormick's East Penthouse. 8:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Next House** 

Nothing like some late-night theatre with popcorn and friends. Watch some of Next Act's past performances with us!

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Next House** Come visit us in Next 5W for a f

Come visit us in Next 5W for a fun night of space related trivia and a showing of The Martian on our wing's awesome projector. Space themed snacks will be available along with a cool prize for the trivia contest victor!

 $8{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $9{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  Next House

Come have delicious boba and froyo with 5E as you chill in our hammock and cuddle with our giant stuffed panda! There will be music, fun, friends, and, of course, yummy food.

8:00 PM - 11:59 PM **New House** Board games, card games, wii games, and pizza if you don't like games.

#### 9:00 PM

 $9{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $10{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  MacGregor House

QI and Brownies with E Entry. Have a Quite Interesting time watching one of the few British shows not about baking and enjoy barely baked brownies.

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Next House** Smoothies, Celebrities, and Just Dance. Come meet a few of the residents of 4East and join in some of our favorite games!

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Next House** Smash 4 tournament with a cheese it, cheese, and sparkling juice sampling while you play

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Senior Haus** Mad Hatter Tea Party. We're all mad here.

9:15 PM - 10:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Bonfire Lounge): Important Bonfire Ballots. When a Bonfaar has a burning question in need of an answer, they turn to the wisdom of their peers. Find out what deep mysteries countless Bonfaari have pondered, and share your

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM **New House** 

Bored? Come sample our board games and our cheese board. Plus hot tea, good bread, fresh fruits and

more

9:30 PM - 11:30 PM **New House** Bake cookies that blow up, catch on fire, and maybe even taste good!

Note: cookies probably won't be on fire, but could be vegan or gluten free. All you have to do is dream.

9:30 PM - 12:00 AM **New House** 

We won't be jellyfishing or playing Eels and Escalators, but you can practice all 13 bad words while we play Cards Against Humanity. We'll be playing a lot of games, like CaH, Uno, dominoes, Smash, and Mario Kart. Spongebob references included.

#### 10:00 PM

 $10{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $12{:}00~\mathrm{AM}$  MacGregor House

Memes and Cereal with J Entry. Watch the best YouTube memes while eating cereal

10:00 PM - 11:59 PM **Next House** Mamma Mia! It'sa pizza time! Bonus points if you talk in Mario-speak.

10:15 PM - 12:45 AM **Random Hall** Random (Destiny Lounge): Advanced Mario Kart. 200 cc or bust. You'll be going so fast that you eat your own dust, and learn how to drift perfectly around corners and mess up a certain red-hatted plumber.

10:15 PM - 12:15 AM Random Hall Random (Foo): Storytime with Cruft. "Cruft, n.: (1) An old piece of computer equipment, possibly useless, that keeps hanging around. (2) An old alum." Come hear stories from back in the day, when things were more hardcore.

#### 11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 12:00 AM **Senior Haus** Nude Portraiture. You're 18, right?

#### Monday, August 29, 2016 12:00 AM

12:15 AM - 2:15 AM **Random Hall** Random (Foo): Midnight Chef. It's midnight, the supermarket is closed, but you're hungry. Let's go to the gas station and try making a three course meal.

#### 7:00 AM

7:00 AM - 11:00 AM **New House** FRUIT SALAD!!! YUMMY YUMMYY \*May also contain smoothies, pancakes, eggs, and vegan options.

#### 9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MacGregor House

Breakfast. "The most important meal of the day. Serving it up Gary's way. Pop!" - Spongebob Squarepants

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM **Burton Conner** [B1] The Breakfast Club. People of all different backgrounds meet in Burton Conner where they pour their hearts out and discover they have a lot in common.

#### 11:00 AM - 12:00PM

#### Convocation

#### 11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM **East Campus** MIT Class of 2020 Convocation. If you have low expectations, you'll excel at MIT.

#### 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM **East Campus** Fort Construction. He walked past the construction \*without\* PPE.

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Senior Haus** ~spooky time~. Ever wished you could have a different face? Here's your chance to make that dream a reality!

#### 1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM MacGregor

Soccer and Popsicles with A Entry. Join the MacGregor Alpha Dogs for some soccer! If you don't like soccer, still come hang out with us: we'll have popsicles for everyone:) 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM McCormick Hall Life Size Board Games. You haven't played board games until you've played them life­sized. Come join us for giant versions of your favorite games like Jenga, Bananagrams, and more! Event hosted on McCormick's Front Lawn.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM **Burton Conner** [B2] Bubble Tea Time. Come for some delicious bubble tea and meet the wonderful humans of

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM **East Campus** Flavorful Fellatio . Phallic fruits and endless condoms. cum 4 fun

Burton 2.

#### 4:00 PM

 $4{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $5{:}30~\mathrm{PM}$  MacGregor House

Silly Water Truck War. Help us prepare for the water war, eat the contents of an ice cream truck, and enjoy silly string shenanigans!

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM McCormick Hall Smoothies. Freshmen-15 in one week is not the goal, so we've got tons of fruit and yogurt for healthy and delicious smoothies. Event hosted on McCormick's Front Lawn.

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM **New House** 

Come try your hand at structure building with toothpicks and marshmallows as your only tools. Many will rise to the occasion but only the strong will remain.

4:15 PM - 5:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Clam): Clam Olympics. The ancient tradition of the Olympics began with the Greeks. After a long time, it was reborn in 1896. Since then it has been held around the globe. This year, the Olympics are being held on Clam!

#### 6:00 PM

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM **New House** Looking for a place where belt-

ing out Disney songs is more than acceptable (IT IS ENCOUR-AGED?) Looking for some delicious smoothies for your daily caloric fruit intake? Come to iHouse Smoothies and Songs!

6:45 PM - 7:45 PM Random Hall Random (BMF Kitchen): Minion Dominion: Going BANANAAAS!. The world has gone BANANAAAS! Minions are dominating the Earth! Come be despicable; decorate banana flavored goods despicably Minion-like in support of this new ruling.

6:45 PM - 7:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Cookies and Smut. Listen to the finest Viking romance novels and



Thursday, August 27, 2015 **THE TECH 13** 



eat delicious warm chocolate chip cookies. Feel the sensation of rivulets of chocolate dripping down your throat and discover Thor's magnificent hammer!

#### 7:00 PM

#### 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **MacGregor** House

Board Games and Bean Dip with E Entry. E entry's legendary bean dip along with its legendary board game fanatics all in one place. Catan you believe it?

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM **McCormick Hall** Truffle Making. What better way to start the sugar rush than to create your own chocolate truffles! Make one just for you and save it for later... if you can resist. Event hosted in McCormick's Country Kitchen.

7:45 PM - 8:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Foo): Battleship Twister. Blue 4! Red 2! You sunk a frosh! Play a game of battleship where you're the ships and the grid is a twister board.

7:45 PM - 9:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Destiny Kitchen): Epic Mealtime of Destiny. Bacon strips & bacon strips

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 1:00 AM Baker House Baker House Skyline Party: Sponsored by Rockstar Energy Drink. Rage at the largest party of REX at the most social dorm on campus! Over 650 people came last year! Party with your fellow freshmen and the residents of Baker House! Featuring two of Boston's top DJs.

#### 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM MacGregor House

Poker and Chinese Food. Texas hold 'em and Chinese food. Come for crappy dealers and stay for the food! (No money required:D)

#### 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM New House

Bring out your sugar teeth, our houses have slaved over delectable desserts for you to eat! We'll also have <advertise other house events

#### 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Next House

Join 3W Residents to feel what it's like to live in the SafetyThird Family. There will be yummy cookies, fun singalongs, videogames + board games aplenty, and more!

#### 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Next House**

"Flop down on our beanbag, grab a cake pop, beat your new friends in Smash, play a round of Jeopardy, stay up all night finishing a 1000-piece puzzle, and do other ""danger""ous\* things with the residents of 3E!

\*activities may include being squashed under Héctor, our resident 24-inch giant panda bean

8:00 PM - 12:00 AM East Campus More Burgers. The current record for number of rush burgers eaten by one person in 24 hours is 32. Cum beat that record.

#### 9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM Burton Conner [B1] Ping Pong and Pocky. Play table tennis and eat Asian snacks with B1!

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM Next House Food! Board Games! Video Games! Art! Music Jam Sesh! All in one place! Get ready to #turnup with Next Two East in our all out extravaganza! Test your skills! BYOI (Bring your own instruments)! Draw on our numerous chalkboards! Show us your talent (or lack of it)! Oh yeah, and food.

#### 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM Next House

Play your nerdy heart out as you hang our with 2 West upperclassmen in a game night set to classy jazz music. We will have Telephone Pictionary, We Didn't Playtest This At All, a large kitten named Lil' Bub, and much more!

9:30 PM - 12:00 AM New House Join us for a private screening of the Spanish House original 'La Cena' followed by some of our favorite movies! \*cue THX sound\*

#### 10:00 PM

#### 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM MacGregor

Movies against Humanity with C Entry. Enjoy cheesy movies with C entry like "Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter" and "Kung Fury", play Cards Against Humanity, and eat

10:00 PM - 12:00 AM **New House** 

"Ppt Karaoke" requires presenters to think on their feet as they give a ppt they've never seen before. \*\*\*Certifed as a Hella Funny Event

10:00 PM - 11:45 PM **Senior Haus** An Homage to Jim Jarmusch. Coffee is a hot brewed beverage made from roasted seeds. Cigarettes are small cylinders of finely rolled tobacco leaves. Come see a series of eleven short films by director Jim Jarmusch.

10:30 PM - 12:00 AM New House Find Fabulous Free Fruit and Fantastic Free Fried Food For Friends, Family, Fun...

#### 11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 11:45 PM Senior Haus last-minute ~spooky time~. it's your last chance

11:00 PM - 12:59 AM Next House Postulate: Pancakes taste better at night, especially after flipping through the air onto your plate.

11:45 PM - 1:00 AM **Senior Haus** Baker House: \*\*BAKER SKYLINE PARTY SPONSORED BY ROCK-STAR\*\*. Don't miss the hottest party at REX! You made your dreams come true earlier with a new face, now show it off!!

#### Tuesday, August 30, 2016

2:00 AM **FYRE** applications close!

fyre.mit.edu

#### 12:00 AM

12:00 AM - 1:00 AM Baker House Baker House Skyline Party Mainstage: Sponsored by Rockstar Energy Drink. Rage at the largest party of REX at the most social dorm on campus! Over 650 people came last year! Party with your fellow freshmen and the residents of Baker

House! Featuring two of Boston's top DJs.

#### 7:00 AM

#### 7:00 AM - 11:30 AM New House

Itching to play Settlers of Catan but also craving bacon? Not to worry! New House has a plethora of food and board games, from bacon, eggs, smoothies, pancakes, waffles, and OJ to Settlers, Dominion, Chance, Monopoly, and many others! If that's not your speed, we also have crafts! Come for the food, stay for the games and glitter glue!

#### 9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MacGregor House

Breakfast. "There has never been a sadness that cannot be cured with breakfast" - Ron Swanson

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Next House How many balloons will it take to lift a frosh? Will we ever succeed in floating Next House closer to campus?? Can we make balloon animals other than snakes???

#### 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM McCormick

Cartoons and Breakfast. Embrace your inner child and watch morning cartoons while enjoying delicious homemade pancakes.

Event hosted in McCormick's Green Living Room.

#### 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM McCormick Hall

Cartoons and Breakfast. Embrace your inner child and watch

morning cartoons while enjoying delicious homemade pancakes. Event hosted in McCormick's Green Living Room.

#### 10:00 AM

 $10{:}00~\mathrm{AM}$  -  $11{:}30~\mathrm{AM}$  Baker House Rooftop Breakfast. Come enjoy our beautiful million-dollar view of the Boston Skyline from our rooftop while you eat breakfast and chat with Baker residents!

#### 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 11:00 PM East Campus Courtyard Grillin'. Shut up. We didn't leave budget for anything.

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM MacGregor House

BBQ with Gentry. If you need a description to know what a BBQ is, just come check it out. If not, you know it's worth it.

#### 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Next House Come have a cold one with Next

Exec! We're talking about lemonade, of course. And Grilled cheese, the cheesiest of Next house traditions

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM Random Hall Random (Bonfire Lounge): Cardboard!. You are a frosh. You probably have too many boxes. You should come and learn what to do with all of them (along with a copious amount of duct tape)! We'll make excellent things, both useful and fun!

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM Random Hall Random (Pecker Kitchen): Nacho Optimization. The power to make nachos is one of the unsung privileges of adulthood. But which cheese? Which chips? Come learn to design the bowl that is right for

#### 1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM Senior Haus LGBTQ+ Resource Info Session. Led by GAMIT

#### 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM **Academic Expo**

#### 5:00 PM

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM New House More tea? As you wish.

#### 6:00 PM

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Burton Conner [B1] SSB(1)M. Play smash (melee) and drink boba tea with B1!

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Burton Conner [B2] 100 Ways to Make Cookies [but actually]. Baking cookies with tons of bizarre (and non-bizarre) add-ins.

#### 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM New House

Come enjoy the International (Development) House of Pancakes and Dance! Here, you have the chance to learn Capoeira (Brazilian dancing), Kenyan dance, and Hip Hop while simultaneously stuffing yourself with an array of breakfast food.

6:45 PM - 8:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Loop Lounge): Crazy Cat Lady Make-a-thon. Do you like cats? Come meet the cats of Random Hall! Make them toys! Eat

yummy treats with them! Become their pets? Enjoy the furry and purring creatures!

6:45 PM - 8:15 PM Random Hall Random (Pecker Lounge): Physics and Fizzy Drinks. Did you know that surface tension effects mean that CO2 dissolved in soda is in a metastable solution state? If you want to know what that means, or just eat snacks, come on over to Random!

#### 7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM MacGregor House

Make Your Own Sushi with D Entry. Make sushi and eat it! Veg op-

7:00 PM - 1:00 AM Senior Haus Open Haus. Come on over and join us for a live music festival, great

food, tours, and some of Senior Haus's favorite events! 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Alum Story Time. Listen to current residents and

crufty alums tell tales of their times at the Haus. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Next House

Care to learn a few new board games you never heard of, or even a few you have? Come join us at NextGamers for an awesome time getting to know each other, even as you try to beat each other.

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM MacGregor

Protobowl and Produce with E Entry. Prove your Quiz Bowl prowess while eating the only fruits and veggies you might find all REX

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Alternative Sex Seminar. Let's talk about everything your parents didn't want you

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM Next House

Make a colorful sign for your new door with Next Art!

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM New House Come lick froyo and talk with resi-

dents about all things MIT! Froyo and advice will be served. \*May also contain vegan options

8:00 PM - 12:30 AM New House Not a sequel, and not about trolls? A tornado made of sharks? Cows with martial arts skills? (This description is almost as bad as the

#### 8:00 PM - 11:30 PM McCormick Hall

movies we will be watching.)

Pics and Snacks. Marathon movies with your newly made friends. Event hosted in McCormick's Green Living Room.

8:15 PM - 10:15 PM **Random Hall** Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Nekomimi Maid Cafe. Come to Random to be served delicious food by maids with cat ears! kawaii neko maid cafe (=^-.-^=)/ nyaa~

#### 9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM MacGregor House

Friends and Fondue with C Entry. Come test your Mario Kart skills against the residents of C Entry and enjoy great Conversation and Chocolate fondue!

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Erotic Poetry. my humps, my humps, my lovely lady lumps

#### 10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 12:00 AM MacGregor

Murder Mystery with J Entry. There's been a murder in Mac-Gregor! Come find out more and be the first to discover who's done it while eating some delicious pasta!

10:00 PM - 11:59 PM **Next House** WATT could be more fun than making your own circuit board? Bet you can't RESIST the thrill of soldering! Newbies and experienced makers alike are welcome: come make something with us!

10:00 PM - 11:59 PM **Next House** We deep-fry pizza balls, oreos, doritos, anything! Your imagination (or your stomach) is the limit! 10:00 PM - 11:00 PM Senior Haus [OPEN HAUS] Tinfoil Hat Society. The time and place where all of MIT's conspiracy theorists can air

public booklet we've already said too much. 10:15 PM - 11:45 PM **Random Hall** Random (Black Hole Kitchen): Milk and Cookies Storytime Against Humanity. Quick! Tell us a story involving being a motherf\*cking sorcerer, racially biased SAT ques-

their thoughts. By posting this in a

tions, and...bees? 10:15 PM - 1:15 AM **Random Hall** Random (Bonfire Lounge): Bonfire Night. Come light up Bonfire and raise the lounge temperature to uncomfortably warm! There will be bouncy lights and glow-in-thedark things, and maybe even loud music.

#### 11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 12:00 AM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Ru and Gabe's Joint Birthday Joke Bash. Have those of you with summer birthdays ever felt jilted by not getting to celebrate with friends? Ru and Gabe do too. Help them fill that void.

#### Wednesday, August 31, 2016

12:00 AM

12:30 AM - 1:00 AM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Watermelon Man. Come watch Senior Haus's infamous initiation video. Virtual historic tours of Haus included.

#### 1:00 AM

1:00 AM - 1:00 AM **Senior Haus** [OPEN HAUS] Bouncy Ball Drop. Be there.

#### 9:00 AM

 $9{:}00~\mathrm{AM}$  -  $11{:}00~\mathrm{AM}$  MacGregor House

Breakfast. "When you wake up in the morning, Pooh" said Piglet at last, "what's the first thing you say to yourself?" "What's for breakfast?" said Pooh

#### 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM McCormick Hall

Running and Breakfast. Go for a bridge loop jog with McCormick residents. Whatever your pace, we'll have a group for you! Or just come for the food at 10:00am. Meet at McCormick's Front Lobby.

#### 10:00 AM

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM **Next House** Here Are Four Ways To Make Incredibly Beautiful Desserts With Puff Pastry

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM **Burton** 

#### Conne

[B3rd] Bomber Body Painting and Henna Tattoos. Get dirty with the Burton Third Bombers.

#### 3:00 PM

#### **FYRE results**

out!

fyre.mit.edu

#### 6:00 PM

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM **MacGregor House** 

Water War March. Join us as we ready our march to the epic Water War!

#### $6{:}30~\mathrm{PM}$ - $7{:}00~\mathrm{PM}$ McCormick Hall

Killian Court: Water War Medics. Need a rest from fighting in the water war? Stop by our booth to grab a reinvigorating popsicle! (P.S. we are not real medics...)

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM **Senior Haus** Victory Barbie-Q. come devour our meat in celebration of victory

#### 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM **McCormick**

Fondue. With melted chocolate and plenty of fruit and sweets to dip, what's not to like? Come check out the penthouse view at our famous fondue night! Event hosted in McCormick's East Penthouse.



#### Thursday, September 1, 2016 12:00 PM

 $12:00~\mathrm{PM}$  -  $2:00~\mathrm{PM}$  McCormick Hall

Taste of Cambridge. We've ordered food from some of our favorite restaurants in the area and we need you to help us eat it all! Embrace MIT's free food culture! Event hosted on McCormick's Front Lawn.

2:00 PM

#### 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM McCormick Hall

Taste of Cambridge Dessert. Taste of Cambridge line too long for you? No worries, we have more... dessert! Event hosted on McCormick's Front Lawn.

#### 8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM **McCormick** Hall

Karaoke with the "Churro Master". Get to know McCormick's awesome Churromaster, I meant Housemaster, and belt out your inner Beyonce. Event hosted in McCormick's Housemaster's Suite (2nd Floor West Tower).

#### Friday, September 2, 2016 1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 3:30 PM McCormick Hall

Ice Cream Extravaganza. Cool down with Toscanini's, Boston's best ice cream, and our famous homemade hot fudge! Event hosted on McCormick's Front Lawn.

#### **Check out the official Dormcon Residential Exploration booklet here!**





# Group seeks input for dorm

Still unknown whether New House will be demolished

New Dorm, from Page 1

dences inviting students to "join the conversation" and receive "detailed updates" by adding themselves to the mailing list dorm-ofthe-future@mit.edu. "We will be sending drafts and and topics to the mailing list... over the next few weeks," she wrote.

In her email, Farris also explained that the Architectural Principles for MIT Undergraduate Residences Group will finalize their document that "describes the general architectural principles of an MIT undergraduate dorm" by Sept. 15, at which time the document will be submitted to MIT campus planners. Students can submit feedback via the above mailing list until September 12.

Deliberations about the future of New House are separate from the work of the Architectural Principles Group, according to Nelson. No decision has yet been made about whether the dorm will be renovated or demolished. Nelson and Chancellor Barnhart recently told New House residents.

In either case, residents will need to relocate at the end of this academic year, and construction would be completed by the start of the fall 2019 semester. Nelson and Barnhart told the residents and house team that "MIT fully appreciates the importance of their community, and will work with them to find balanced, fair solutions during this transition period."

#### Solution to Techdoku I

1	6	3	2	4	5
2	1	4	3	5	6
6	5	2	1	3	4
4	3	6	5	1	2
5	4	1	6	2	3
3	2	5	4	6	1

#### Solution to Techdoku II

from page 6						
1	6	4	3	5	2	
6	5	3	2	4	1	
5	4	2	1	3	6	
3	2	6	5	1	4	
4	3	1	6	2	5	
2	1	5	4	6	3	



#### You never thought you could learn to move like this...

- Check out MIT's award-winning team
- No experience or partner necessary
- Take free lessons and learn about MIT BDT
- · All are welcome!

The MIT Ballroom Dance Team presents

Wednesday, September 7 7:00 pm @ Lobby 13 Rumba, Swing & Ice Cream

> Thursday, September 8 7:00 pm @ Lobby 13 Foxtrot & Waltz

Saturday, September 10 2:00 pm @ Morss Hall Mock Competition & Pizza!

MIT Ballroom Dance Team ballroom.mit.edu

// mitbdt 🕜 mit.bdt





#### 20.102 Stem Cells in Organogenesis, Carcinogenesis, and Atherogenesis Units: 3-0-9

Lecture: TR1-2.30 (16-220)

Amitotic metakaryotic cells are the primary stem cells of fetal/juvenile organogenesis and wound healing. They also serve as the pathologic stem cells of cancers and atherosclerosis. We will explore their peculiar biology and the findings that they are (a.) constitutively resistant to x-rays and chemo"therapy" and (b.) sensitive to many common drugs including certain NSAIDS and antibiotics. Age-specific human mortality rates are modeled as stem cell cascades potentially sensitive to metakaryotic stem cell killing before pathologic lesions arise.

New this Fall: design of clinical trials testing metakaryocides to cure and/or prevent disease, e.g. pancreatic cancer.

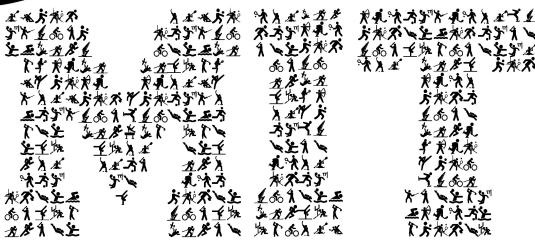
E. V. Gostjeva (gostjeva@mit.edu), W. G. Thilly (thilly@mit.edu)

Synopsis: <a href="http://mortalityanalysis.mit.edu/">http://mortalityanalysis.mit.edu/</a> AAA-20.102-FALL-2016

See also: <a href="http://mortalityanalysis.mit.">http://mortalityanalysis.mit.</a> edu and http://mortalityanalysis.mit.edu/ AAA-METAKARYOTIC-BIOLOGY-PUBS







**Graduate Orientation** Olympics 2016 Thursday, Sept 1 2pm - 7pm

(Registration at 1.45pm)

**Z-center** 

contact: tang-government@mit.edu

#### **DID YOUR MIT ESSAYS GET YOU IN?**

The Tech is collecting successful application essays (**hint:** yours!). Email your pieces to cl@tech.mit.edu! 16 The Tech

# Columbia grad students are considered employees

#### Ruling opens the door foor collective bargaining rights for affected graduate students

By Noam Scheiber

Punctuating a string of Obamaera moves to shore up labor rights and expand protections for workers, the National Labor Relations Board ruled Tuesday that students who work as teaching and research assistants at private universities have a federally backed right to unionize.

The case arose from a petition filed by a group of graduate students at Columbia University in New York, who are seeking to win recognition for a union that will allow them a say over such issues as the quality of their health insurance and the timeliness of their stipend payments.

Echoing longstanding complaints from blue-collar workers that they have become replaceable cogs in a globalized economic machine, the effort reflects a growing view among more highly educated employees that they too are at the mercy of faceless organizations and are not being treated like professionals and aspiring professionals whose opinions are worthy of respect.

"What we're fundamentally concerned about isn't really money," said Paul R. Katz, one of the Columbia graduate students involved in the organizing efforts. "It's a question of power and democracy in a space in the academy that's increasingly corporatized, hierarchical. That's what we're most concerned about."

Columbia and other universities that weighed in with the board before the ruling argued that collective bargaining would lead to a more adversarial relationship be-

tween students and the university that would undermine its educational purpose.

The decision reverses a 2004 ruling by the board involving graduate student assistants at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. The ruling held the assistants could not be considered employees because they "are primarily students and have a primarily educational, not economic, relationship with their university."

The current board disagreed, arguing that Columbia students could be deemed employees if they perform and are compensated for work that the university oversees, even if their relationship was substantially broader.

The three Democratic members of the board made up the majority; the lone Republican member dissented. A fifth spot on the board has been vacant since last year.

Highly educated workers in other fields have also chafed at a growing sense of their own powerlessness. Recent law school graduates have lamented their rising debt and declining prospects for landing a law firm job. Many medical interns and residents have unionized in recent years, while a group of doctors at a medical center in Oregon formed a union of hospitalists in 2014.

Heather Appel, the communications director for the Committee of Interns and Residents, which is affiliated with the Service Employees International Union and represents some 14,000 residents, interns and fellows nationwide, attributed the activity in part to the doctors' lost sense of autonomy and to growing job insecurity amid a trend of hospital mergers.

At the same time, the Obama administration and its appointees have taken numerous steps to protect workers and bolster their rights in recent years, from lifting the minimum wage for workers employed by federal contractors to new rules that lower workers' exposure to dangerous silica dust.

Some of these efforts have touched professionals as well, such as a requirement that financial advisers who handle workers' retirement accounts must act in their best interests, and expansion of the number of employees who are automatically eligible for time-and-ahalf overtime pay, which affected many postdoctoral researchers.

Many universities opposed the overtime rule, arguing, as with unionization, that it would change their relationship with their students and young scholars.

Despite the overall trend, the administration and its appointees have not been categorically sympathetic to labor. Last year, the labor board dismissed a petition by football players at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, who had argued that they were employees and sought to unionize.

Graduate students at a number of public universities already have the right to organize under state laws.

Caroline A. Adelman, a spokeswoman for Columbia, said that "Columbia — along with many of our peer institutions — disagrees with this outcome because we believe the academic relationship students have with faculty members and departments as part of their studies is not the same as between employer and employee."

Money does not appear to be a

central issue between the students and the Columbia administration, which has already raised stipends by several percent per year of late.

As a sign of the changing nature of the control that universities exert over instructors, some of the Columbia students have pointed to the rise over the past several decades of adjunct faculty members — who typically teach for less pay, and have far less job security, than tenure-track faculty members.

Over the past five decades, the proportion of tenured and tenure-track faculty at postsecondary institutions declined from about three-quarters to about one-third, according to some estimates.

Beyond concerns that unionization by graduate students will be highly disruptive, the universities also argued that the reach of the unions would extend beyond the purely economic aspect of the relationship between the student assistants and the university. They worry that unionization might begin to intrude on academic matters, such as class size and length, even the format of classes and exams.

Joseph Ambash, a lawyer who represented Brown University in its 2004 case and wrote a brief in the current case on behalf of several Ivy League universities, cited concerns about what he called a slippery slope.

"I don't think a union is going to negotiate things such as grades," he said. "However, when you talk about the term 'workload,' that goes to how many hours a week should a research assistant devote to working in the lab on research that results in a Ph.D., how many hours they devote to grading exams, who gets to be selected to be either a teaching

assistant or research assistant."

All of those examples have significant academic implications and should be controlled entirely by the university, he said.

In rejecting such arguments, the board cited research that examined the impact of graduate student unions in public universities and generally concluded that the unions either had no effect on academic freedom and the relationship between students and faculty, or actually brought improvement.

"We don't observe bad effects on academic freedom, bad effects on faculty-student relationships," said Paula B. Voos, an professor at Rutgers University who was a coauthor of one of the studies cited.

Voos' study, which compared students at four public universities that had graduate student labor unions with four that did not, found that on balance students at the unionized universities reported having better personal relationships and "professional support relationships" with their main faculty advisers.

The majority at the labor board, an independent agency whose members are appointed by the president, expressed confidence that universities and their students could draw a proper line between largely academic issues and issues of pay and working conditions.

Citing the example of New York University, which voluntarily recognized its graduate student union in 2013, it said the university's labor agreements "incorporate a 'management and academic rights' clause, which would tend to allay fears that collective bargaining will attempt to dictate academic matters."

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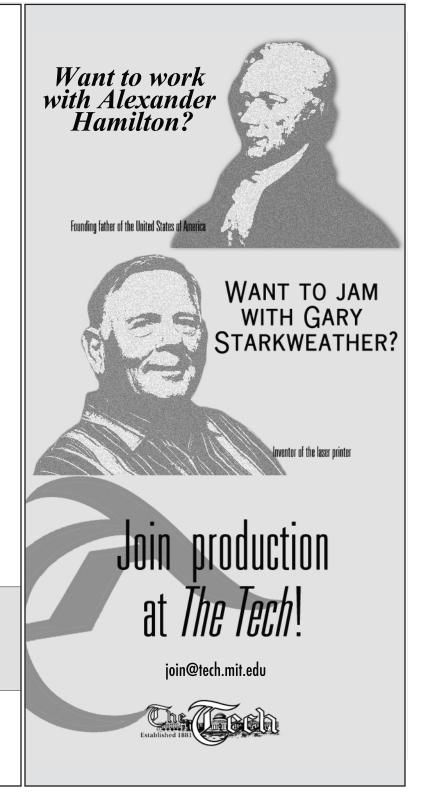


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# Rio Olympics conclude with 121 medals for U.S.

#### Athletes Michael Phelps, Simone Biles, Usain Bolt dazzle in pool, at gym, on track

By Daniel J. Newman

SPORTS WRITER

The United States dominated the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio De Janiero, Brazil. The US won the overall medal count with 121 medals, 46 of which were gold, a significant increase from the 2012 Games when the US had won 103 medals. The US had 41 more medals than China, the country with the second most.

The United States started the Games strongly in the pool. Michael Phelps cemented his spot as the greatest American Olympian of all time, winning five gold and one silver medal, bringing his total medal count to 28 across four games. Katie Ledecky was absolutely dominant, winning four gold and one silver medals. The US won

33 medals in swimming, which was three times more than the closest competitor, Australia, with 10.

We should appreciate the accomplishments and dedication of all the athletes, regardless of nationality.

The women's gymnastics team captured the hearts of the nation. Led by Simone Biles, who was the star of the team with four gold and one bronze medals, the Americans won 12 medals — four more than Bussia

The US also won bronze medals in both men's and women's volleyball. Additionally, the beach volleyball duo of Walsh-Jennings and Ross settled for a disappointing bronze, snapping Walsh-Jennings's 12-year reign as Olympic

champion.

Although Usain Bolt stole the show on the track, winning three gold medals for the third straight Olympics, the US again easily led the track and field medal count with 32, which was 19 more than Kenya in second. The most exciting event on the track was the 400 meter dash, where Shaunae Miller of the Bahamas dove across the finish line to narrowly beat Allyson Felix of the US

The 4x100 meter relay was equally as chaotic for the US, as the men's team was disqualified for an

illegal exchange in the final and the women's team was disqualified in prelims after dropping the baton. Fortunately for the women, the meet officials determined the Brazilian athlete impeded the American runner, so the US was granted a rerun, where they eventually qualified and went on to win the gold.

The most disappointing aspect of the Games was the behavior of the Brazilian fans. Too often the crowd was actively booing and jeering non-Brazilian competitors. During the men's floor exercise, with two Brazilian gymnasts slotted in medal positions but with a few competitors left, the crowd cheered loudly at every misstep the competitors made. The two Brazilians went on to win medals.

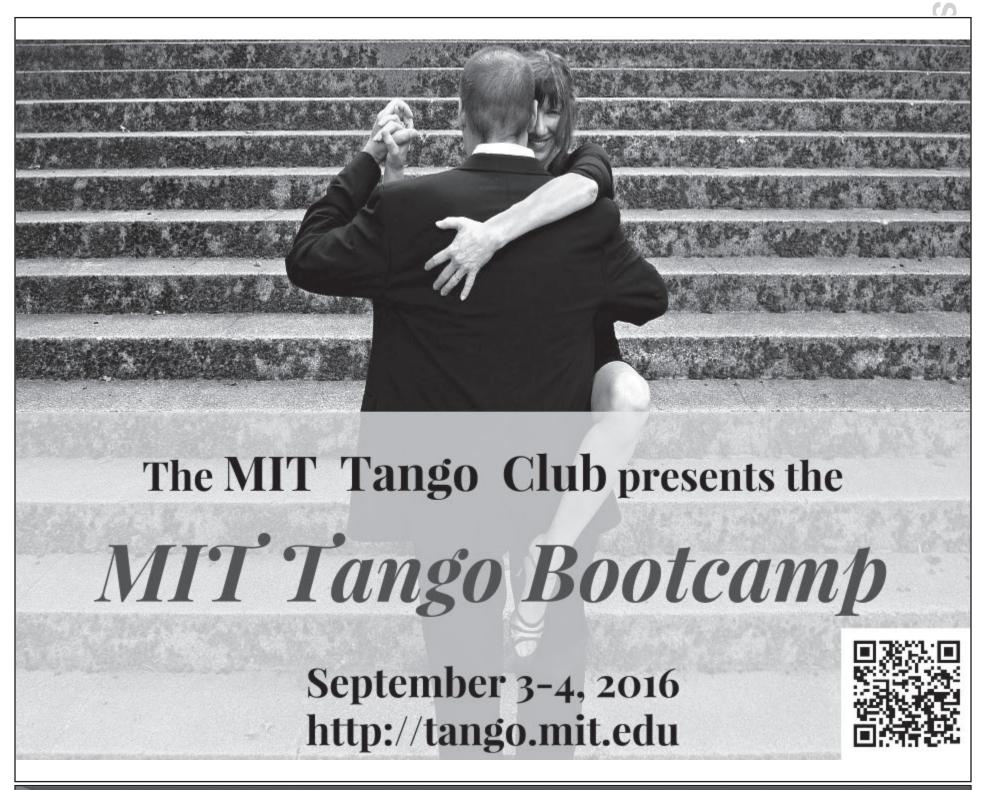
On the track, the men's pole vault was an exciting battle be-

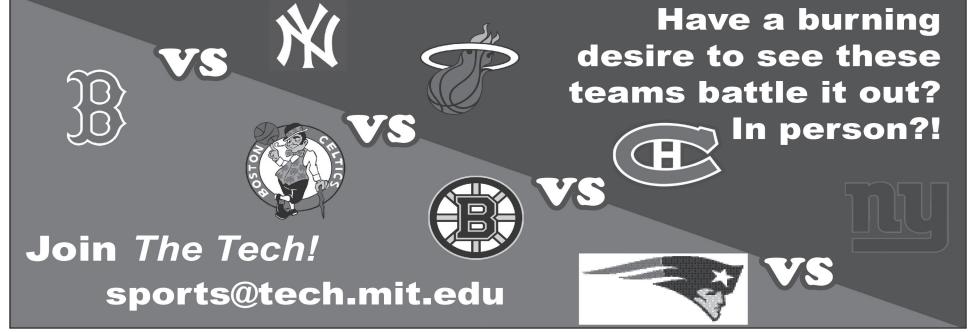
tween Brazil's da Silva and France's Lavillenie. After da Silva pulled the upset and won the gold medal, Lavillenie was booed while on the podium to the point that it left him in tears.

Sportsmanship is something that both athletes and fans should exhibit. One can support their country without disrespecting others, and at an event as great as the Olympics, we should appreciate the accomplishments and dedication of all the athletes, regardless of nationality.

Overall, the Olympics were full of excitement and American medals. The next summer Olympics will be in Tokyo in 2020, and it leaves us plenty to look forward to. The upcoming winter Olympics in 2018 will be in Pyeongchang, South

**SPORTS** 





**MOVIE REVIEW** 

# The pains of reality

Natalie Portman's debut as director

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A Tale of Love and Darkness

Directed by Natalie Portman

Starring Natalie Portman, Gilad Kahana, Amir Tessler

Rated PG-13

**Now Playing** 

By Alexandra Sourakov

STAFF WRITER

Seemingly, there is a need for popular actors to do something serious and heartfelt once in a while. After his trip to Mordor, Elijah Wood trekked to Ukraine in the film Everything Is Illuminated on a journey to seek his Jewish ancestry. After defeating Voldemort,

Daniel Radcliffe took a respite from fantasy and starred in A Young Doctor's Notebook, based on the relatively obscure diaries of the Russian writer Mikhail Bulgakov. Natalie Portman, in her debut as a director, has adapted Amos Oz's A Tale of Love and Darkness, a coming-of-age memoir by one of Israel's most celebrated authors. Portman, who was herself born in Israel, has a personal connection to the subject, which is felt in her loving treatment of the film.

A Tale of Love and Darkness is told through the eyes of a young Oz, played by Amir Tessler, with occasional narration by an elderly Oz (played by Alexander Peleg, voiced by Moni Moshonov), who relives the past as he strolls down the cobblestoned, winding streets of old Jerusalem. It is his mother, Fania, played soulfully by Portman herself, who is the true star of the show. Portman's magnetic performance in her anguished role overshadows everything around her. Since childhood, Fania has been a dreamer and continues to be one in the midst of her dreary life. Her move from Poland to Jerusalem before the war and the Holocaust had always been her dream, but it hasn't turned out the way she imagined. Although married to Arieh (Gilad Kahan), a struggling writer, Fania cannot shake the image of the strong and handsome pioneer she conjures for herself throughout her life. She draws comfort from their only son, Amos, with whom she shares her stories and fantasies.

The production is picturesque and cinematographically rich, but sometimes a bit heavy-handed. There is, for instance, a hypnotic grace and an unwarranted foreboding in the way a handful of shredded beets spread like blood when Fania adds them to borscht. There is a scene of a breaking swing, which brims with symbolism but lacks subtlety. The film is already heavy with the emotions of a distressed Fania, to which are added still more tear-jerking episodes related to the sectarian violence that accompanied the formation of Israel and that is sadly still with us to this day.

The greatest thing about this film, apart from Portman's brilliant performance as an actress, is the manipulation of the color palette. When Fania's realities, whether past or present, are portrayed, the colors are muted and the general impression is of a grey, perpetually overcast world. Her memories are shrouded in a soft, nostalgic fog, and in the present, there is no hope for the sun coming out "tomorrow." Only the stories that Fania invents for herself and for her son are gemlike, infused with color and vitality. Fania's stories are real life, while reality is simply a bad dream. When Fania departs from this world, Oz cannot shake her legacy and continues striving to live up to her dreams in the kibbutz.

Storytelling has been at the heart of Jewish culture since the times of Abraham. Any good story is a result of truth mixed with invention and exaggeration, frequently accompanied by self-deception. This poetic attitude with regard to reality permeates the art of such greats as Sholem Aleichem, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and Woody Allen. Overall, Portman delivers on her promise to tell us a tale and does so in a sincere and heartfelt manner. The two hours that I hope you will find the time to spend in the theater, while perhaps not falling squarely into the category of "entertainment," will fill your mind with unforgettable stories and perhaps will turn your thoughts to the stories that you guard in your heart.

**MOVIE REVIEW** 

# 1776 delivers patriotic, playful production

Cross casting defies sexism inherent in the script

1776

Performed by the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players

**Directed by Emma Brown** 

Written by Sherman Edwards and Peter Stone

Ran August 12 - 13 at 8 p.m., August 14 at 2 p.m.

In Kresge Little Theater

By Emma Bingham

EDITOR

In the midst of oppressive August heat, the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players took audiences back to another sweltering summer in a different northern city. They delivered three sold-out performances of Edwards and Stone's 1776

The musical, which follows the founding fathers as they debate the "resolution on in-

dependency" in June and July of 1776, shone most in its humorous moments but also managed to be serious when warranted.

The banter between John Adams (Anna-Constantia Richardson), Benjamin Franklin (Michael DeFillippi), and others, especially Thomas Jefferson (Sara Haugland) and Richard Henry Lee (Dannie Smith), produced loud rumbles of laughter from the audience.

The actress who played Adams certainly convinced me that he was obnoxious and disliked in the Continental Congress (despite the fact that Wikipedia says this is not historically accurate).

The womanizing Benjamin Franklin loomed as large on this stage as he ever does in history. He provided a counterpoint to Adams's constant impatience and antagonism. And for all his seeming levity, it was totally believable that his character could severely scold Adams when he needed it.

Thomas Jefferson had fewer lines, instead allowing his facial expressions to speak for him. And speak they did. It was apparent from Jefferson's face what he thought of every other person onstage. The actress who played him really perfected the scowl and the look of disdain.

I was disappointed that Lee has such a

small part, only appearing in the first act. The actress infused an infectious enthusiasm into the role. His genuine-lee good-natured bluster made you forgive him for his enormous ego. "The Lees of Old Virginia" was my favorite song of the whole musical.

Cross casting defied some of the sexist attitudes in the script. In 1776, women are either devoted wives or sex objects. As the director notes in the program, the musical has only two female characters, and "one is portrayed as a romantic fantasy" while the other is "a matron waiting patiently for her loving husband to return."

The most notable example of this might be the song about how Jefferson "plays the violin." Adams and Franklin ask why Martha (Meghan Jolliffe) is so attracted to Jefferson, and she admits he has never wooed her with words. Then she pauses and sings that instead that he plays the violin — surely a euphemism. Martha's only role in the musical is to sing this

Casting women as some of the congressmen helped ameliorate the effects of reducing women to such simplistic roles.

The singing in the musical was excellent. The cross casting added to this as well, producing more variation in octaves than a typical

production of 1776. The singer who played Abigail Adams (J. Deschene) particularly stood out, belting powerful renditions of "Till Then" and "Yours Yours Yours."

I also noted that, interestingly, unlike other recent MIT student group productions I've attended, much of the cast and crew of 1776 were both non-students and not affiliated with MIT.

The orchestra was lovely and patriotic. I especially enjoyed the percussion by Jake Gunter'18.

The lighting, designed by James Fowler, accented the production in a delightfully subtle way, such as in the scene where a fight breaks out on the Congress floor. The lights took on a reddish tint as the fight heated up but reverted to white when the congressmen calmed down.

One of the only quibbles I had with the otherwise excellent production was with the age makeup. Wrinkles looked like they had been drawn on with black sharpie, most notably on Franklin's forehead.

The set even had a window that could open up when the congressmen demanded it, even though there were "too many flies." What a relatable conundrum, even in our modern times. Especially here in the northeast, where not all buildings have air conditioning.

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#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

# As genuine as it is funny, Florence Foster Jenkins hits the right notes

Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant give reliably brilliant, hilarious performances



COURTESY NICK WAL

Meryl Streep as Florence Foster Jenkins in the film, Florence Foster Jenkins by Paramount Pictures.

By Ray Wang

Bad singers are some of the most annoying people in the world. When they belch out a string of screechy notes, each one progressively more off-key than the last, I want to curl up into a ball and die.

But when there's a genuine passion behind a terrible voice, it becomes all the sweeter. Although real-life socialite Florence Foster Jenkins, a wealthy patron of the arts in WWIIera New York, is blissfully oblivious to her lack of vocal ability, she wins our hearts as the star character of director Stephen Frear's latest

film

We are introduced to Jenkins, played by a marvelous 67-year-old Meryl Streep, as she decides to start taking vocal lessons again after hearing a young, beautiful opera singer at Carnegie Hall.

What garners the most sympathy for Jenkins is not her endearing obliviousness to her tone-deafness, or her pitiable health problems — it's her devotion to the artistic vitality of New York

A generous woman, she gladly donates to arts performances in the city to ensure that the show always goes on. She believes that, in a time when young men are overseas fighting for freedom in WWII, music has never been more important to the spirit of New York. She attempts to boost the young soldiers' morale and infuse the city with spirit through music, winning the respect and sympathy of the film's audience.

The most multifaceted and well-developed character, though, might go to St. Clair Bayfield (Hugh Grant), Jenkin's husband.

We don't know what to think of Bayfield at first — it's revealed that he lives with a younger girlfriend, Kathleen (Rebecca Ferguson), in an apartment paid for by his wife. What are his motivations? Does he truly love Jenkins? Is he using her for her money?

But, time and again, we see his devotion to Jenkins, as he stands up for her and protects her on every occasion. This places strain on Kathleen — a charming and warm character, she can share Bayfield, but desires not to lose her dignity because of his double life.

The character of Cosme McMoon is a delightful enigma. He's awkward and endearing from the moment he's introduced — when he auditions for and receives the position as Jenkins' pianist. He aspires to be a great pianist, yet he doesn't seem to be made of star material — he's shy and self-conscious. But, once he gets over his qualms of being embarrassed in public by Jenkins' raucous voice, he proves himself to be supportive of his friend and patron.

The greatest thing about the film is that Jenkins is, in a sense, what we wish we could all be. Her passion for the people in her life, for music, and for everything she does quite literally keeps her spirit alive. She, while lacking so much, lives life to the fullest. and her devotion to realizing her dreams resonates with something suppressed in all of us. As Jenkins noted herself, they may say she can't sing, but no one can say she didn't sing.

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Florence Foster Jenkins

**Directed by Stephen Frears** 

Starring Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant

Rated PG-13

**Now Playing** 

#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

# Neon doesn't disguise the shabby spectacle of Suicide Squad

DC manages to disappoint in its most anticipated film of the year

By Ray Wang

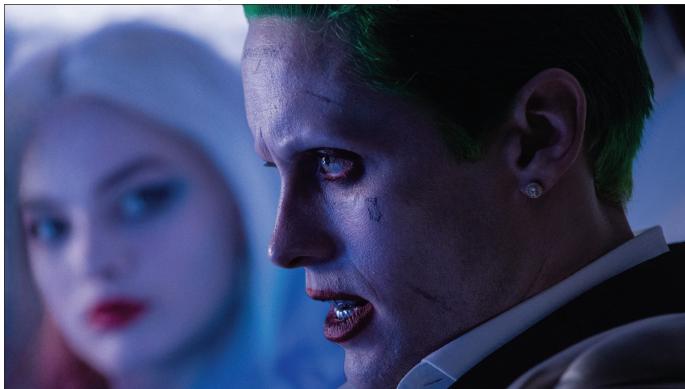
"How low of a rating is this going to get on Rotten Tomatoes?"

For the last anticlimactic half hour of DC's new superhero debacle Suicide Squad, I was decreasing my guess on every line of dialogue. By the time the multicolored barrage ended, I estimated 20% positive reviews (critics ended up giving the film 26%). I had long since ceased to have fun. I was in the death throes of disappointment, dread, and dreariness — disappointment that a backstory and cast with such potential was wasted, dread of the next bit of limp-dick cringe-worthy dialogue, and dreariness of the paper-thin swiss-cheese plot

Wait, was there a point to this film? Oh — Amanda Waller (Viola Davis) is a steely woman who assembles a team of criminals with special abilities to work for the government against their will. Among the band of villains is Deadshot (Will Smith), the infamous hitman who never misses, and Harley Quinn (Margot Robbie), a psychotic former psychiatrist who's devoted to her lover, the Joker (Jared Leto).

The film is promising at the outset — the backstories of each character are intriguing, the actors are killing it. Smith proves himself a natural at playing his cynical, charismatic mercenary, and he's by far the best in his role. Viola Davis is also just as intimidating and ballsy as we expected. She convinces us that she can control her motley collection of criminals and that the movie is on the right track.

But after the antagonists are revealed (to the audience's confusion, more than suspense or alarm) and the Suicide Squad is hauled into action, the film quickly devolves into nonsensical neon rubbish heaped onto a dull cookie-cutter plot. I thought that the all-star cast and some self-deprecating humor would keep the junk afloat, but the dialogue was so far from witty and interesting that even the diehard fans in denial could only manage



COURTESY CLAY ENOS/ TM & (C) DC COMIC

(L-R) Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn and Jared Leto as The Joker in Warner Bros. Pictures' action adventure "Suicide Squad," a Warner Bros.

strained chuckles at times.

And the editing. My god. It's as if they had far too much footage and a room full of people squabbling over how to stitch the pieces together. The end result is sloppy and incoherent, with no scenes having as much impact as they're meant to, adding to the confusion.

Jared Leto's appearance as the Joker has also been much maligned. Fans thought Leto would have a significant role and that his acclaimed acting would be a major draw, but Leto is poorly utilized, delegated to a few scenes and a weakly-developed caricature of the beloved villain.

As the plot holes accumulate like mole hills in a weed-filled, neglected backyard, the film becomes more painful to watch. Without character consistency or a coherent plot, the Squad trudges to the end, dragging the audience shackled, bruised, and mutilated, with them.

There's no joy in Suicide Squad. There's only the loss of hope and a feeling of emptiness, regret, and filth like the one that follows a greasy Chinese buffet. You were drawn inside by the bright neon signs to feed, but the meal leaves you wondering whether you have any sense of self-respect.

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Suicide Squad

**Directed by David Ayer** 

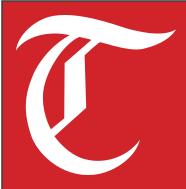
Starring Will Smith, Jared Leto, Margot Robbie, Joel Kinnaman, Viola Davis

Rated PG-13

**Now Playing** 

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